AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of producing pluripotent stem cells, which comprises culturing testis cells using a medium containing glial cell derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) or an equivalent thereto for at least 3 to 6 weeks, wherein the testis cells contain spermatogonial stem cells, and wherein the testis cells are derived from a postnatal mammal, and isolating pluripotent stem cells from the cultured testis cells.

2. (Original) The production method of claim 1, wherein the medium further contains leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).

3. (Previously Presented) The production method of claim 1, wherein the medium further contains at least one of epidermal growth factor (EGF) and basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF).

4. (Previously Presented) The production method of claim 1, which comprises culturing testis cells in the presence of feeder cells.

5. (Original) The production method of claim 1, wherein the testis cells are spermatogonial stem cells.

6. (Original) The production method of claim 5, wherein the spermatogonial stem cells are GS cells.

7. (Original) The production method of claim 1, wherein the testis cells are P53-deficient.

8. (Currently Amended) The production method of claim 1, which comprises the following steps:
(Step 1) culturing testis cells using a medium containing glial cell derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) or an equivalent thereto for at least 3 to 6 weeks to obtain cultured cells;
(Step 2) culturing the cultured cells obtained in Step 1, using a medium containing leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF) to obtain pluripotent stem cells.

9. (Original) The production method of claim 8, wherein the medium for Step 1 further contains leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).

10. (Previously Presented) The production method of claim 8, wherein the medium for Step 1 further contains at least one of epidermal growth factor (EGF) and basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF).

11. (Previously Presented) The production method of claim 8, wherein Step 1 comprises culturing testis cells in the presence of feeder cells.

12. (Currently Amended) The production method of claim 1, which comprises the following steps:
(Step 1) culturing testis cells using a medium containing glial cell derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) or an equivalent thereto for at least 3 to 6 weeks to obtain GS cells;
(Step 2) culturing the GS cells obtained in Step 1, using a medium containing glial cell derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) or an equivalent thereto to obtain pluripotent stem cells.

13.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The production method of claim 1, wherein the pluripotent stem cells are positive for at least any one selected from the group consisting of SSEA-1, Forsman antigen, β1-integrin, α6-integrin, EpCAM, CD9, EE2 and c-kit.

16. (Original) The production method of claim 15, wherein the pluripotent stem cells are positive for SSEA-1, Forsman antigen, β1-integrin, α6-integrin, EpCAM, CD9, EE2 and c-kit.

17.-34. (Canceled)

35. (New) The production method of claim 1, wherein the mammal is a rodent.

36. (New) The production method of claim 1, wherein the mammal is a mouse.